IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Hassan M. Fathallah-Shaykh Applicant:

Title: METHODS FOR ELIMINATING

INDISTINGUISHABLE AND FALSE

DIFFERENTIALS FROM COMPARATIVE

DATA MATRICES

Appl. No.: 10/633,875

Filing Date: 8/4/2003

Examiner: Shubo Zhou

Art Unit: 1631

Confirmation 5251

Number:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Zhou:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 19, 2008, concerning the above-referenced patent application. This amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) that is filed herewith. The shortened statutory period was set to expire on June 19, 2008. With the accompanying petition for a one-month extension of time, this response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this document.